Major Trade Cities along the ‘**SILK ROAD’**

**Chang’an**: Is the capital city of ancient China (today we call this city Xi’an). In this city merchants trade silk, herbs and spices, porcelain, and dried rhubarb. It is also the place where the Silk Road began and the place that started to trade silk to the western countries (Europe).

**Dunhuang**: This city is famous for Buddhism. Buddhism came to China from India during Silk Road period. Also in Dunhuang the merchants go to the cave temples and pray for a safe trip. The merchants traded wheat, silk, and pepper.

**Kashgar**:This place was a city where travelers could rest after a long trip in the Taklamakan Desert. Kashgar was famous for selling fruit such as melons, grapes, and many others. Also in this city some of the Chinese merchants stopped their Silk Road journey here.

**Baghdad**: Is the capital city of Iraq. In Baghdad many Arab merchants brought many African slaves, ivory, and gold. Some Chinese merchants bought these trade goods and went home, and those who stopped their journey here, sold goods they brought to the merchants of other countries.

**Tyre**: Tyre is located on the Mediterranean sea (so merchants ship their trade goods to Byzantium). The merchants sailed their ships and went to Byzantium, the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire (present Greece).

**Byzantium**: Is the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire. This was the place where the Silk Road journey ended. The merchants rested and traded their goods here, and bought goods such as gold to bring back to their home countries.